

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 308. }

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 29, 1864.

Passports for persons coming from foreign countries.

The following order of the President, received from the Department of State, is promulgated for the information and government of all officers in the military service whom it may concern:—

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, December 17, 1864.

The President directs that, except immigrant passengers directly entering an American port by sea, henceforth no traveler shall be allowed to enter the United States from a foreign country without a passport. If a citizen, the passport must be from this Department, or from some United States Minister or Consul abroad; and if an alien, from the competent authority of his own country; the passport to be countersigned by a diplomatic agent or Consul of the United States. This regulation is intended to apply especially to persons proposing to come to the United States from the neighboring British provinces. Its observance will be strictly enforced by all officers, civil, military and naval, in the service of the United States, and the State and municipal authorities are requested to aid in its execution. It is expected, however, that no immigrant passenger, coming in manner aforesaid, will be obstructed, or any other persons who may set out on their way hither before intelligence of this regulation could reasonably be expected to reach the country from which they may have started.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Assistant Adjutant General.